The Cleveland Museum of Art
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Cleveland Museum of Art Presents
"Peace Will Be My Applause: The Soul of W.E.B. Du Bois"
Musical Representation of "The Souls of Black Folk" Originally Written in 1903

CLEVELAND (April 21, 2003) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) will feature *"Peace Will Be My Applause: The Soul of W.E.B DuBois,"* a special theatrical presentation of historic and visionary essays written by the renowned African-American civil rights activist and writer as part of a 100th anniversary celebration of his life and work. This **free** presentation will be held in the Museum's Recital Hall on Friday, May 2, beginning with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by the performance at 7 p.m. Cleveland State University Professor of History Regennia Williams, Ph.D. will lead a post-performance discussion.

Originally published in 1903, "The Souls of Black Folk," featured Du Bois' essays including classic statements on turn-of-the-century race relations in the global community. This special presentation at the museum, directed by Margaret Ford Taylor, will feature six actor/musicians from the Cleveland Arts Theatre. Performers David Coleman, Michael Fisher, Susan Hughes, Joyce Meadows, Tommy Sanders and Bobette Herd-Suddeth will convey the life and works of Du Bois through a spirited performance of his own words from his eloquently definitive collection of essays.

The performance also will feature a cappella arrangements of the Negro Spirituals Dubois recognized as America's first music and source of strength for African Americans. Dubois' "Sorrow Songs" note the richness of African American culture in his discussion of the church and its celebration. Arranged by Glenn Brackens, director of the Wings Over Jordan Celebration Choir, the "Sorrow Songs" complement the overall flavor of "Peace Will Be My Applause."

The Cleveland Museum of Art receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America's leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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